

In this article Chester M. Lewis, Chief Librarian of the *New York Times*, gives to MICROCOSM readers a preview of his new book, *Microrecording: Industrial and Library Applications*, which he is writing with William Offenhauser, Jr. as co-author. To be published by Interscience in May, this 450-page manual will sell for about \$7.50.

Mr. Lewis's interest in microphotography is of long standing and he has written several articles on the subject. Readers of MICROCOSM are well aware of the microfilm edition of the *Times*, but they may not know that Mr. Lewis pioneered the photographing of his newspaper's clipping file on 70mm film through University Microfilms. In addition to his *Times* post, he is president of the Special Libraries Association.

For a brief rundown of the important uses of microfilm, see page 4.

Pre-Publication Report on a New Book:

MICRORECORDING

By Chester M. Lewis

Microphotography is one of the more generally utilized methods of preserving recorded information. The use and development of this and other techniques of documentation will undoubtedly be even more rapid within the next decade than they have been in the past several because of the tremendous impact of research on our national economy and the resultant need to have ready access to research materials.

The state of flux in the field is such that it is difficult even for the technicians and the experts to keep abreast of developments, and few of the current sources are comprehensive enough to provide this information; it is a case of obtaining information from a professional association or publication or from an occasional text that covers some specific part of the field but not the whole.

If this situation exists for the technician, consider the plight of the layman. Many of the small libraries and small organizations in the country are just beginning to use microfilm or micro-opaques in maintaining their records. Few of them have a complete picture of why they employ these techniques. Many of them have neither the time nor the inclination to investigate the problem adequately, preferring instead to rely solely

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

In English and Spanish:

THE PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

By Bennett Rich

One of the basic documents of Philippine political history is now on microfilm. The Proceedings of the Philippine Constitutional Convention of 1934-35, consisting of approximately 6,600 legal size pages, were microfilmed recently by the Institute of Public Administration, University of the Philippines.

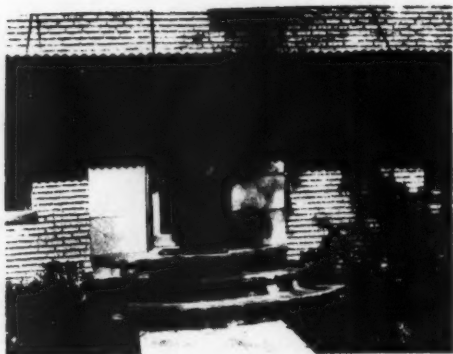
The microfilm project stemmed initially from a research study of Dr. H. B. Jacobini, Research Consultant of the University's Institute of Public Administration, concerning the office of the Vice-President.

In endeavoring to determine the constitutional origins of the office, he discovered that the proceedings of the convention were not available in the University library nor, indeed, in any library in Manila. However, he learned that the Supreme Court had a typed carbon copy which had been presented some years previously by a delegate to the convention, Mr. Salvator Araneta. An examination revealed that, after two decades, the pages were beginning to turn yellow and to chip at the edges. Personnel in the office of the Supreme Court expressed the opinion that most, if not all, other sets of the Proceedings had been destroyed in World War II.

During the summer of 1955 the staff of the Institute considered the possibility of reproducing the eleven volumes of Proceedings. It seemed obvious that unless steps were taken soon, one of the principal sources for determining the purpose and meaning of the Philippine Constitution would be lost. Once the decision to microfilm the Proceedings had been made, the Director of the Institute, Dean Jose Velmonte, asked and quickly obtained the consent of the Supreme Court to release the volumes provided no more than one was taken from the court offices at any time.

The National Power Corporation made available its microfilming facilities and its operator. The arrival in Manila of Eugene Power, who was

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)



Vol. I

No. 4

MICROCOSM is a publication of University Microfilms, with central offices at 313 North First Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

MICROCOSM is intended to bring interesting news of microfilming in all of its phases to the attention of librarians and others who, in the opinion of the Publisher, will benefit by receiving it.

If you would like to receive MICROCOSM regularly, please send a postal card with your name and address to

MICROCOSM
University Microfilms
313 North First Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan

MICRORECORDING

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

upon the information provided by the sales representatives of commercial processing or micro-filming companies.

It was because of the dearth of information in this field that Interscience Publishers undertook the development of a manual for the layman that will answer many problems in the field of micro-recording. While it has not been written primarily for the technician, nevertheless he may find it useful because of the collation of the data contained in this volume. Because of the many and rapid changes in the field such a volume can not be kept current without subsequent editions, and it is the intent of the publisher to issue revisions as needed.

In essence, this book covers the reasons and the objectives of a microrecording program. It goes into record retention programs and schedules, limitations for civil actions, and the evidentiary value of microrecords. In this respect it covers the American laws pertaining to micro-records as well as probably the first survey of the European laws on this subject.

It discusses disaster and war-damage controls and copyrighting problems of material published in this form. The chapter on the fundamentals of the process, i.e., forms of microrecording, and the chapter on the technical arrangements of the process, are quasi-technical but are presented in the event the layman wishes this information. The same is true in regard to the chapter on cameras and equipment for making immediate copies.

Of particular interest to the layman are the

sections on the preparation of material for filming, the section on indexing, and the chapter on readers. Perhaps one of the most useful chapters is that on the selection and cost of micro-recording programs. In addition, the volume contains a list of commercial processors and numerous American Standards Association standards. The latter are useful to the technician and to the layman.

Throughout the volume are tabular data on readers, cameras, enlargers, and processing equipment, giving manufacturer, cost, and specifications, accompanied by approximately 107 illustrations. All forms and techniques (both opaques and transparencies) involving micro-photography, as well as related processes of duplicating and enlarging, are discussed at length. An analysis of trends in mechanical search as related to this field is also included.

As the title of the volume indicates, its objective is to aid the layman, not only in the library but in the industrial field as well. It is because of this that technical terms are defined and the description of processes and equipment is kept as succinct, simple and non-technical as possible. □

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD FILMED

The *Congressional Record* for the second session of the 83d Congress has recently been microfilmed. Beginning with this session extraneous matter has been eliminated from the permanent (bound) *Record* under the provisions of par. 5 of the Joint Committee on Printing resolution of June 23, 1953, which reads as follows:

"All extraneous matter, including but not limited to newspaper and magazine articles, editorials, addresses, radio programs, commentators' stories, resolutions from organizations and individuals, letters from constituents, etc., together with Members' remarks preceding same, appearing in the appendix of the daily *Congressional Record*, shall be omitted from the permanent form of the *Congressional Record*."

In photographing the *Record* the permanent set was used, but in addition the index and the appendix from the daily issues have been filmed for the benefit of librarians and the historians, lawyers, and political scientists who are their clients.

The film copy runs to seven reels, of which the last two are the appendix pages from the daily issues. The price of the complete film is \$75.00. The permanent set by itself is \$50.00, while the appendix pages sell separately for \$25.00. □

STORAGE OF MICROFILMS

What is the difference between archival and commercial storage of microfilms? This and other pertinent questions are answered in the Eastman Kodak Publication, "Storage of Microfilms, Sheet Films, and Prints."

A very limited number of those pamphlets have been obtained for MICROCOSM readers. For a copy please write to MICROCOSM, 313 N. First St., Ann Arbor, Michigan. There is no charge. □

Currently on film THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

By Charles I. Campbell
Acting Director of Publications
National Academy of Sciences

Like the Royal Society of London and the Académie des Sciences of France, and most other learned societies, the National Academy of Sciences of the United States publishes a journal in which the members of the Academy and their colleagues may publish original contributions to their fields of scholarship, in this case to research in the natural sciences and mathematics. Unlike the *PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY*, the *PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES* is published in one annual volume which includes both the physical and the biological sciences.

Since its papers are intended to be short announcements of conclusions reached in work and will later be published as full-length articles in the established specialized journals, speed of publication is essential, and articles submitted at the beginning of one month usually appear in the issue of the next month following. This is possible largely because the *PROCEEDINGS* is in one sense unrefereed, but in a more important sense because the members of the Academy (now numbering some 550) act as referees, each being individually responsible for the papers he writes or communicates on behalf of a colleague who is not a member.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the emphasis among fields of research varies from year to year. For a number of years its pages have reported much distinguished work in genetics. Under the editorial guidance of the distinguished chemist, Linus Pauling, member of the Academy and Nobel laureate, a number of the most significant papers bearing on the structure of proteins were published. Biochemistry and virology have long been well represented, and there is no reason to suppose this will change under the new editor, Wendell M. Stanley, another Nobel laureate who is head of the Virus laboratory at the University of California.

In the field of geophysics the *PROCEEDINGS* last year published several papers giving the first comprehensive outline of the scientific problems to be dealt with during the International Geophysical Year that is being organized by the academies and international scientific unions of the world to study the earth as a planet during 1957-58.

Occasionally the results of scientific conferences are synthesized for the *PROCEEDINGS*, for example the conference on biochemistry, paleoecology, and evolution held in 1953 to stimulate the interaction between recent biochemical advances and the fields of geology, geochronology, paleontology, paleoecology, etc., or the symposium on nucleic acids organized in connection with the annual meeting of the Academy in 1954. Important new work in the field of the psychic effects of certain drugs has been recently published.

An average issue contains ten or fifteen papers in several fields and an average volume currently contains about 1200 pages of scientific papers numbering about 200. Now in its 41st volume, *THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES* has been available on microfilm since volume 35.

The prices for the microfilm to subscribers to the paper edition are:

Vol. 35, 1949	\$2.10
Vol. 36, 1950	2.25
Vol. 37, 1951	2.60
Vol. 38, 1952	3.20
Vol. 39, 1953	3.90
Vol. 40, 1954	3.50

Subscriptions for the paper edition should be placed through the University of Chicago Press.

PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

on a trip to the orient at the time, seemed especially fortuitous. As the proprietor of University Microfilms, he had ready answers for a host of technical problems.

But before the actual microfilming operation was begun, staff members of the Institute, H. B. Jacobini and B. M. Rich, together with the Institute Librarian, Miss Consuelo Damaso, conducted an investigation to determine whether other and better copies of the Proceedings were in existence.

The investigation established with reasonable certainty that the original official copy had been destroyed in the bombings and fires of World War II. Rumors that one or another of the delegates had a complete set were tracked down. A member of the Supreme Court, for example, said: "Yes, I had a copy. But every book and manuscript in my library was lost when my house burned." A second set was examined in the law offices of Senator Jose P. Laurel. This set was an original typing but many partially blank pages contained the word "insertise." The inserts, however, had never been made. The Supreme Court volumes were more complete.

The microfilming of the Proceedings serves a dual purpose. Not only are the people of the Philippines assured that an historic document will be preserved, but constitutional students both in the Philippines and in other parts of the world will have important source materials available for ready reference.

Bennett M. Rich is an associate professor of political science and Director of the Bureau of Government Research at Rutgers University.

Dr. Rich was a consultant to the Institute of Public Administration of the University of the Philippines during the summer of 1955 when the project of filming the journals of the Philippine Constitutional Convention was begun.

The seven-reel microfilm edition of the Proceedings is available from UM at \$50.00 for the set.

SIX REASONS FOR A LIBRARY MICROFILM PROGRAM

With the increasing use of microfilm and other forms of microfacsimiles for the reproduction and preservation of printed materials, it is important for the librarian planning a microfilm acquisitions program to know the basic tests for such a program. There are six reasons for microfilm in a library program which come readily to mind.

1. As a means of protection against the loss or unnecessary use of rare or irreplaceable books, manuscripts, and documents.

An example of a microfilm program serving this need can be found in almost any of the scholarly projects sponsored by University Microfilms. Even where a library holds a large percentage of the titles in such series publications as the American Periodical series, the American Culture series, or the Rhetoric and Elocution series, it is to the advantage of the library to have the microfilm available for general use, reserving the original for the occasional research worker who has a genuine need for it.

2. As a means of securing permanent copies of materials of ephemeral nature.

Newspapers are a prime example of this use of film. Librarians still preserving old original files of sulphite paper will find that as time goes on they have not only paid high prices for binding and storage, but have little left to show for their efforts after 30-40 years.

3. As a means of economically obtaining copies of material located in distant depositories.

University Microfilms has cameras available in most of the principal libraries of Great Britain

and Europe to serve the needs of scholars. A large share of this work is carried on through the facilities of University Microfilms Ltd., at Dering Yard, 67 New Bond St., London W 1.

4. As a means of radically reducing the space occupied by any collection of material.

The Current Periodical program is a prime example of this use of microfilm. As much as 94 percent of the space occupied by the original paper issues can be saved by the substitution of microfilm after the initial period of greatest use is over.

5. As a method of original publication of scholarly and technical material in limited editions.

Positive microfilm copies can be economically produced on demand in editions of one. This is a tremendous advantage for such a program as University Microfilms carries on with cooperating institutions in the Doctoral Dissertation series, where demand is unknown in advance.

6. As a method of republishing material in short supply or out of print.

Here again, almost any of the series publications serves as an example. The English Books series (based on Pollard and Redgrave's *Short-title Catalogue of English Books, 1475-1640*) is probably the best example of a program of this sort.

A word of caution is necessary for some librarians as to what should *not* be on film. Reference books such as dictionaries, bibliographies, indexes, catalogues, encyclopedias, etc., should not ordinarily be microreproduced. Materials used frequently by large numbers of people should not be reproduced. In this connection it should be noted that newspapers and periodicals should not be replaced by the film until the initial heavy-use period is over. □

University Microfilms, 313 No. First St.
Ann Arbor Michigan



